

Regular Meeting

**ARTS & HUMANITIES COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
510 E. FLORENCE BOULEVARD, CASA GRANDE, AZ 85122  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

**A. Call to Order:**

Chairman Benitez called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

The following members were present:

Debbie Benitez  
Seprina Packard  
Gloria Smith  
Stacey Seaman  
Jonathan Voyce

The following member was excused:

Jeanette Rhodes

The following member was absent:

Erica Herman

Also present:

Remilie S. Miller	City Clerk
Anna M. Valenzuela	Deputy City Clerk
Joanne Kramer	Principal, Palo Verde Elementary School
Steve Wagoner	Teacher, Vista Grande High School
Jennifer Houselog	Teacher, Cottonwood Elementary School
Azure Sullivan	Teacher, Mesquite Elementary School
Leslie Snyder	Teacher, Casa Grande Middle School
Jennifer Murrieta	Principle, Casa Grande Middle School

**B. Minutes:**

Member Seaman moved to approve the regular minutes of August 5, 2015. Member Voyce seconded the motion and was carried unanimously.

**C. Reports:**

**None**

*It was the consensus of the Commission to discuss New Business Items E.1 & E.2 at this time, and then proceed with regular sequence of the Agenda.*

**E. New Business:**

**E.1 Report on Grant Application to Proposition 202 Funding with  
Tohono O'odham Nation for the Commission's Mini Grant Program  
and Future Railroad Art Plaza Project**

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City Clerk Miller reported that the Arts and Humanities Commission applied for several Proposition 202 grant fundings. The Commission received funding from Gila River Indian Community for \$10,000. Funds have been deposited that resulted to the announcement of the Commission's FY15-16 Mini-Grant.

City Clerk Miller announced that she received a notice from Tohono O'odham Nation awarding the Arts and Humanities Commission a Prop 202 grant of \$10,000 for the Commission's Art Mini-Grant proposal.

City Clerk Miller reported that each Prop 202 proposal she submitted indicated that the Commission will notify if other funding is received from other Tribes for this project.

City Clerk Miller advised the Tohono O'odham Nation that the Commission had already been awarded a \$10,000 grant from Gila River Indian Community. City Clerk Miller further stated that she processed the Grant-In-Aid agreements from the Tohono O'odham Nation and executed the agreement. According to the letter received, the Commission was awarded a \$10,000 from Tohono O'odham Nation for the Commissions FY15-16 Art Min-Grant Project.

City Clerk Miller reported that the Commission's grant proposal for their Future Railroad Art Project was not selected for award by Tohono O'odham Nation.

City Clerk Miller advised that she would keep the Commission updated once the check for \$10,000 from the Tohono O'odham Nation is received.

**E.2            Review of 1st Round 2015/2016 Applications/Proposals for  
City of Casa Grande Arts & Humanities Commission  
Educational Partners Program Mini-Grant and  
Consider the Award of Mini Grant Funds for Casa Grande Schools**

City Clerk Miller reported that she received the check for \$10,000.00 from the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC), for the Educational Partners Program Mini Grant. The check was forwarded to the Finance Director to deposit the funds.

City Clerk Miller reported that nine (9) proposals were received for the City of Casa Grande Arts & Humanities Commission Educational Partners Program Mini Grant, and they are as follows:

#	Applicant	Subject & # of Students	Project Title & Dates	Funding Purpose	Amount Requested FY 2015/16
1.	Erica Herman 300 W. McMurray Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 510-8238 <a href="mailto:Erica.herman@cgelem.k12.az.us">Erica.herman@cgelem.k12.az.us</a>	Art 227	Scratch Art Project Lots O' Lines! (Semester 1: Sep – Oct, 2015) (Semester 2: Feb – Mar 2016)	Purchase Tools to create Scratchboards	\$190.00
2.	Joanne Kramer 40 N. Roosevelt St. Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 412-1650 <a href="mailto:Joanne.kramer@cgelem.k12.az.us">Joanne.kramer@cgelem.k12.az.us</a>	Band 35+	Palo Verde Big Band (Aug, 2015 – Ongoing)	Purchase musical instruments	\$3,000.00
3.	Erica Herman 300 W. McMurray Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 510-8238 <a href="mailto:Erica.herman@cgelem.k12.az.us">Erica.herman@cgelem.k12.az.us</a>	Art 227	Cultural Printmaking (Semester 1: Nov – Dec, 2015 Semester 2: Apr – May 2016)	Purchase equipment that will allow students to create projects using printmaking techniques.	\$345.69
4.	Steve Wagoner 1362 N. Casa Grande Avenue Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 876-9400 <a href="mailto:swagoner@cguhs.org">swagoner@cguhs.org</a>	Advanced Placement Studio Art: 2D 23	Wet Darkroom print making for Advanced Placement Studio Art: 2D	Purchase equipment to build a booth from melamine & create a darkroom	\$200.00

5.	Jennifer Houselog 1667 N. Kadota Avenue Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (319) 504-3578 <a href="mailto:jen.houselog@gmail.com">jen.houselog@gmail.com</a>	Resource 25	Using Technology to help Students with Learning Disabilities	Purchase an Apple Ipad	\$500.00
6.	Azure Sullivan 129 N. Arizola Road Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 836-7787 <a href="mailto:Azure.Sullivan@cgelem.k12.az.us">Azure.Sullivan@cgelem.k12.az.us</a>	Art, Character, and Math 438	Activity Nov 14 & 21, 2015	Purchase of project supplies for Dream Catchers and Dream Catcher books	\$249.00
7.	Ruth Phillips 1500 N. Colorado Street Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 836-5086	Science, Social Studies ELA, Math 75	STEAM Art Night Activities Mar - May 2016	Project Supplies for Art projects	\$640.00
8.	Karen Pacheco 501 E. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 836-7247 <a href="mailto:Karen.pacheco@StAnthonyCGSchool.org">Karen.pacheco@StAnthonyCGSchool.org</a>	Math/Performi ng Arts/Visual Arts 20	Use of Visual Arts to Enhance/Incorporate Math Instruction Entire School year	Purchase IPad Air, OSMO, and IPad Case	\$645.73
9.	Leslie Snyder 300 W. McMurray Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 840-9378 <a href="mailto:Leslie.snyder@cgelem.k12.az.us">Leslie.snyder@cgelem.k12.az.us</a>	Stem 647	Beautifying our School through STEAM Jan – Mar 2016	Purchase project supplies to create 4x4 tiles which will be permanently displayed at school	\$853.62
<b>Total Number of Students to Benefit from Projects:</b>		<b>1,717</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<del>\$5,770.42</del> <b>\$6,624.04</b>

The total amount requested from the nine (9) applications is \$5,770.42 **\$6,624.04**. The \$10,000.00 funding is provided by Prop 202 from Gila River Indian Community and available for the FY2015-2016 Mini Grant Program.

City Clerk Miller conveyed that she invited via email the teachers who submitted proposals to attend the meeting tonight to support and/or answer, if any, questions from the Commission.

Chairman Benitez called to the lectern those teachers in attendance in numerical order from the City of Casa Grande Arts & Humanities Commission FY2015-2016 Educational Partners Program Mini-Grant proposals.

Ms. Joanne Kramer, Principal from Palo Verde Elementary School, relayed that the goal is to build the band program. Thirty-three (33) students expressed interest in playing in the band this year.

Ms. Kramer provided pictures of the students playing instruments to the Commission. Ms. Kramer further relayed that the goal is to have thirty (30) instruments by the end of the school year.

In response to Member Seaman, Ms. Kramer conveyed that there is a budget to repair and maintain the instruments via the donations fund.

In response to Chairman Benitez, Ms. Kramer conveyed that she has already borrowed all the instruments that were available in the District to support the new band class.

In response to City Clerk Miller, Ms. Kramer conveyed that they have a need for all types of instruments for the band class. Ms. Kramer further relayed that they have an abundance of clarinets since clarinets are the least expensive instrument.

In response to Member Voyce, Ms. Kramer conveyed that Palo Verde has a keyboard but no piano.

City Clerk Miller announced that the City of Casa Grande Finance Department requires that the grant recipient fills the W-9 form in order to process the check for grant award. The check can be issued to the teacher or the school provided a W-9 is completed and submitted accordingly.

Mr. Steve Wagoner, Teacher from Vista Grande High School reported that his proposal is to build a booth for an enlarger for the Advanced Placement Studio Art 2D program for Vista Grande High School.

In response to Member Seaman, Mr. Wagoner conveyed that materials would be purchased to build a cabinet for an enlarger. Mr. Wagoner would provide the labor.

Member Smith recommended awarding Mr. Wagoner more money than he requested.

In response to Member Voyce, Mr. Wagoner conveyed that with \$200.00 he could build a booth, but he would welcome any amount awarded.

Ms. Jennifer Houselog from Cottonwood Elementary School conveyed that she is a Resource Teacher in the Special Education Department. Ms. Houselog explained that an iPad would help the students with emotional needs. The special education students can access many applications that will allow them to create Art and learn technology.

In response to Member Seaman, Ms. Houselog confirmed that she had twenty-five (25) students, and she chose the iPad versus a regular tablet because she is more familiar with the Apple family products.

Ms. Azure Sullivan from Mesquite Elementary School conveyed that she is a Teacher on Assignment at the school. Ms. Sullivan conveyed that her proposal of creating dreamcatchers would be used as “family time” in which the entire school would create Dreamcatchers. This project would allow teachers and students to incorporate teamwork.

Member Seaman relayed that she liked the fact that the Dreamcatchers project would be for every student in the school. Ms. Sullivan’s proposal would benefit 438 students with the Dreamcatchers project.

In response to Member Voyce, Ms. Sullivan confirmed that each student would create a Dreamcatcher; with teachers creating the model. Ms. Sullivan further responded to Member Voyce that she created the project Dreamcatchers and not a project copied from any school program. The family groups programs of the school were featured in a local Casa Grande Magazine.

Leslie Snyder, Teacher at Casa Grande Middle School conveyed her project proposal will allow for students to create Art on the walls and possibly benches at the school. Ms. Snyder presented pictures of the sample projects (decorated tiles) to the Commission.

In response to Member Voyce, Ms. Snyder conveyed the Art project for students is something that can be enjoyed year-round. The amount requested for the project is enough funding to have the entire school body create a piece of Art.

In response to Member Smith, Ms. Snyder conveyed that the tiles can be baked in the school ovens, no kiln is required.

In response to Chairman Benitez, Ms. Murrieta, Principal of Casa Grande Middle School conveyed that she approved the tiles project to be placed on the benches at the school. Ms. Murrieta expressed that this project was a great opportunity for the students and staff as well.

City Clerk Miller explained the process of the Commission's Mini-Grant Program to the applicants. There are reporting requirements she must provide to the Prop 202 Tribes (Gila River Indian Community and Tohono O'odham Nation) as proof that the grant funds were expended for the purposes identified in the Commission's grant application.

Further, City Clerk Miller conveyed referring to the Mini-Grants application "Reports Requirements" which are:

- Report Requirements (Submit within 30-days after completion of projects):
  - Submit photographs of project (3 to 5)
  - Submit "Thank You" letters from the students

Member Voyce conveyed that he was disturbed by the complete lack of support that is in place for Arts in the schools. Member Voyce expressed his appreciation to the applicants for submitting proposals that should be made available to them through the school.

City Clerk Miller announced that at this time the Commission will discuss the award of funds for the nine (9) proposals for the 1<sup>st</sup> Round FY15-16 Mini-Grant. City Clerk Miller affirmed all of the submissions have been screened by her and they all met all the qualification requirements of the Commission's Mini-Grant Program.

In response to Member Seaman, City Clerk Miller conveyed that there is \$10,000 available for the whole year, and if all the funds are not awarded today, there will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> round grant process to advertise until the funds are depleted.

Further, City Clerk Miller announced that the total amount requested for the nine (9) applications is ~~\$5,770.42~~ **\$6,624.04**. The \$10,000 funding provided by Gila River Indian Community is available for the 2015-2016 Mini-Grant Program.

In response to Member Voyce, City Clerk Miller confirmed that the amount requested is ~~\$5770.42~~ **\$6,624.04**. City Clerk Miller reiterated that leftover funding will be re-advertised for 2<sup>nd</sup> Round review.

In response to Member Voyce, Mr. Wagoner replied that he would welcome additional funding should the Commission wish to increase the award of funds.

The Commission reviewed all nine (9) proposals. The Commission carefully considered each application and proposals to fund the proposals for the following:

#	Applicant	Subject & # of Students	Project Title & Dates	Funding Purpose	Mini Grant Award 1 <sup>st</sup> Round
1.	Erica Herman 300 W. McMurray Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 510-8238 <a href="mailto:Erica.herman@cgelem.k12.az.us">Erica.herman@cgelem.k12.az.us</a>	Art 227	Scratch Art Project Lots O' Lines! (Semester 1 Sep – Oct, 2015) (Semester 2 Feb – Mar 2016)	Purchase Tools to create Scratchboards	\$190.00
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4.	Steve Wagoner 1362 N. Casa Grande Avenue Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 876-9400 <a href="mailto:swagoner@cguhs.org">swagoner@cguhs.org</a>	Advanced Placement Studio Art: 2D 23	Wet Darkroom print making for Advanced Placement Studio Art: 2D	Purchase equipment to build a booth from melamine & create a darkroom	\$200.00 \$429.58 <i>The Commission increased award by \$229.58</i>
5.	Jennifer Houselog 1667 N. Kadota Avenue Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (319) 504-3578 <a href="mailto:jen.houselog@gmail.com">jen.houselog@gmail.com</a>	Resource 25	Using Technology to help Students with Learning Disabilities	Purchase an Apple Ipad	\$500.00
6.	Azure Sullivan 129 N. Arizola Road Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 836-7787 <a href="mailto:Azure.Sullivan@cgelem.k12.az.us">Azure.Sullivan@cgelem.k12.az.us</a>	Art, Character, and Math 438	Activity Nov 14 & 21, 2015	Purchase of project supplies for Dream Catchers and Dream Catcher books	\$249.00



7.	Ruth Phillips 1500 N. Colorado Street Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 836-5086	Science, Social Studies ELA, Math 75	STEAM Art Night Activities Mar - May 2016	Project Supplies for Art projects	<u>\$640.00</u>
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9.	Leslie Snyder 300 W. McMurray Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (520) 840-9378 <a href="mailto:Leslie.snyder@cgelem.k12.az.us">Leslie.snyder@cgelem.k12.az.us</a>	Stem 647	Beautifying our School through STEAM Jan – Mar 2016	Purchase project supplies to create 4x4 tiles which will be permanently displayed at school	<u>\$853.62</u>
	<b>TOTAL Students to Benefit from Projects:</b>	<b>1,717</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$6,853.62</u></b>

Member Seaman moved to approve award for the 2015-16 1<sup>st</sup> Round Mini-Grant funding to nine (9) proposals listed above in the amount of \$6,000 \$6,853.62 (including an increase of \$229.58 for Mr. Wagoner's proposal). Member Packard seconded the motion and was carried with a 5-0 voice vote.

City Clerk Miller confirmed that Mr. Wagoner's grant award total is \$429.58.

Further, City Clerk Miller conveyed that the remaining balance of Gila River Indian Community funds will be re-advertised for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round.

#### **D. Unfinished Business**

##### **D.1 Discussion on the Commission's Fundraising Auction of Prize-Winning Paintings from Plein Air Painting Events**

City Clerk Miller reported that per the Commission's instruction, the two (2) paintings were delivered to Western trading Post with a note indicating a reserve for both paintings of \$250.00 each.

The paintings were not auctioned because Mr. Olson, Owner of Western Trading Post advised that he does not put a "reserve" when conducting auctions.

The paintings were picked up and placed in display at the City Clerk's area.

City Clerk Miller conveyed that she secured a booth at no cost to the Commission at the Copperstate Fly-in scheduled for October 22, 23, & 24, 2015 at the Casa Grande Municipal Airport. At this venue the Commission will auction or sell the Prize-Winning Paintings from the Plein Air Painting Events.

It was the consensus of the Commission to sell the paintings instead of holding a Silent Auction at the Copperstate Fly-in event.

City Clerk Miller provided the following information for the Copperstate Fly-in:

- The event is on October 22 thru 24, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Booth #41 (assigned to the Arts and Humanities Commission) is located at the South West corner of the tent (the area is tented/shaded)
- Parking for exhibition
- Additional information on set up and logistics will be e-mailed by Deputy City Clerk Anna Valenzuela.

The following are volunteers scheduled to work the booth:

Thursday, 10/22/15 - Stacey Seaman

Friday, 10/23/15 - Debbie Benitez

Saturday, 10/24/15 - Remy Miller

City Clerk Miller announced the Commission is scheduled to conduct a Silent Auction of Prize-Winning Paintings during the Mayor's Annual Boards and Commission's Dinner on November 18, 2015.

## **D.2 Update and Discussion on the Commission's Bravo Award Program.**

City Clerk Miller conveyed that she has received one application for the Commission's Bravo Award Program. Further, City Clerk Miller conveyed that advertisement is in effect, and that she will also forward the information to the Chamber of Commerce to include in their calendar.

Chairman Benitez conveyed that she will reach out to all the people she knows to advise them of the Bravo Award Program. Chairman Benitez further relayed that since the deadline for applications is November 16, 2015, she will make sure to get the word out right away.

**D.3**

**Discussion on the Call to Artist for  
Conducting Workshop on Playwriting**

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City Clerk Miller conveyed that no proposals were received for the Call to Artist for Conducting a Workshop on Playwriting.

City Clerk Miller reported that she received a phone call from a person regarding the Call to Artist referred by Commission Member Smith.

Member Smith conveyed that the woman who called thought she missed the deadline and did not submit her application.

It was the consensus of the Commission to table the Project Workshop on Playwriting indefinitely.

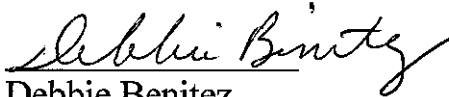
Member Seaman requested to include discussion of the Ten-Minute Play at the next meeting.

**F. Public Comments:**

**None**

**G. Adjournment:**

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:51 p.m.

  
Debbie Benitez  
Chairman